

OLC #78-5256

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20 September 1978

MFR

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT : HSCA and Mexico City

1. Yesterday morning Mr. Blakey, in the prologue that he gives prior to testimony, made statements as follows:

"the Cuban Government has suggested that pictures should exist of....the Consulate taken from a surveillance camera....the Cuban Government has provided photographs of the surveillance site (Blakey entered into record)....the Committee has investigated who was responsible for the surveillance....and sought to interview the person(s) who operated the site....no pictures of LHO have been located....."

He had told us no mention would be made of CIA photographic or telephone operations in Mexico. This obviously raises the question directly.

2. At a meeting yesterday afternoon with one of the senior staff members, Mr. Goldsmith, I complained about this, observing that there was a commitment to avoid such mention. It struck me as strange that this source was used as a way to get it into the record anyway.

3. Observing that the HSCA was concerned with its credibility I asked how it would seem to the press if the Committee appeared as hand maiden of the Cuban government in its current propaganda attack on CIA. I said we could not approach the press, but HSCA should be aware of how alert the press is to such things.

4. I reminded him that we had sought a hearing in executive session on the Nosenko and Mexico subjects, and had been refused. I was not renewing that request,

SECRET

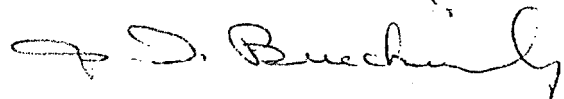
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SECRET

but reminded him of it to point up that the Committee had not been denied the full story and I saw no excuse in Mr. Blakey's making these statements.

5. I stated that we understand that they are following a tactic of putting in something of everything on all sides, but I felt there was a place for discrimination. Reminding him that CIA is part of the U.S. Government, I told him this inquiry is not a courtroom case, but involves considerations of national importance and international implications, and they should keep it in mind.

6. Saying that I had not discussed the matter with anyone in the Agency, I asked that he convey my personal concern to Mr. Blakey. He said he would.



S. D. Breckinridge

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